

September 26, 2013

David Keyon
City of San José
200 E Santa Clara
San José, CA 95111

Subject: Cultural Resources Inventory for the Rocketship Public Charter Elementary School Project, City of San Jose, California

Dear Mr. Keyon,

This letter documents the cultural resources inventory conducted by Dudek for the Rocketship Public Charter Elementary School Project, City of San Jose, California. Existing buildings, paved parking areas, roads, and landscaping cover the entirety of the proposed project area. A records search conducted by Northwest Information Center (NWIC) staff on 9/25/2013 indicates that no archaeological sites have been recorded within the Project parcel. A Sacred Land File search request sent to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has not received results to date, and no subsequent tribal correspondence has yet been initiated. Results of this correspondence will be included in the final environmental study for this project. The current cultural resources investigation was conducted by Dudek in accordance with the standards and guidelines defined under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Results of a built-environment evaluation for the project parcel are pending, and will be provided as a separate study. Due to the NWIC records search results, and the developed project setting, it is recommended that archaeological monitoring is unnecessary during future ground disturbing activities associated with the project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is located in the northeast portion of the City of San José, near Interstate 680 at 70 S. Jackson Avenue, San José, California (Figure 1). The site is located on the east side of S. Jackson Avenue, south of the intersection of S. Jackson Avenue and Alum Rock Avenue (Figure 2). A bank is located north of the project site and residential land uses border the site to the east. At the southern end of the project site is a paved alley that was formerly a City of San José right-of-way: a short segment of East San Fernando Street. The City of San José vacated this property in 1998.

The proposed elementary school would include the existing 10,270 square foot building located in the center of the project site and a new 10,880 square foot building that would be constructed on the southern portion of the site. The former loading dock and courtyard space between the two buildings would function as the lunch area and part of the play area. The existing structure would be improved with interior modifications to accommodate the school use (replace ceiling, remove floor tiles and blast and stain existing concrete floor, remove existing dividing walls and construct new walls, install new plumbing) and exterior improvements to include replacing the roof, modifying windows and installing skylights, installation of roof-mounted HVAC, and upgrading the structural integrity of the building to meet current requirements of California's Field Act.

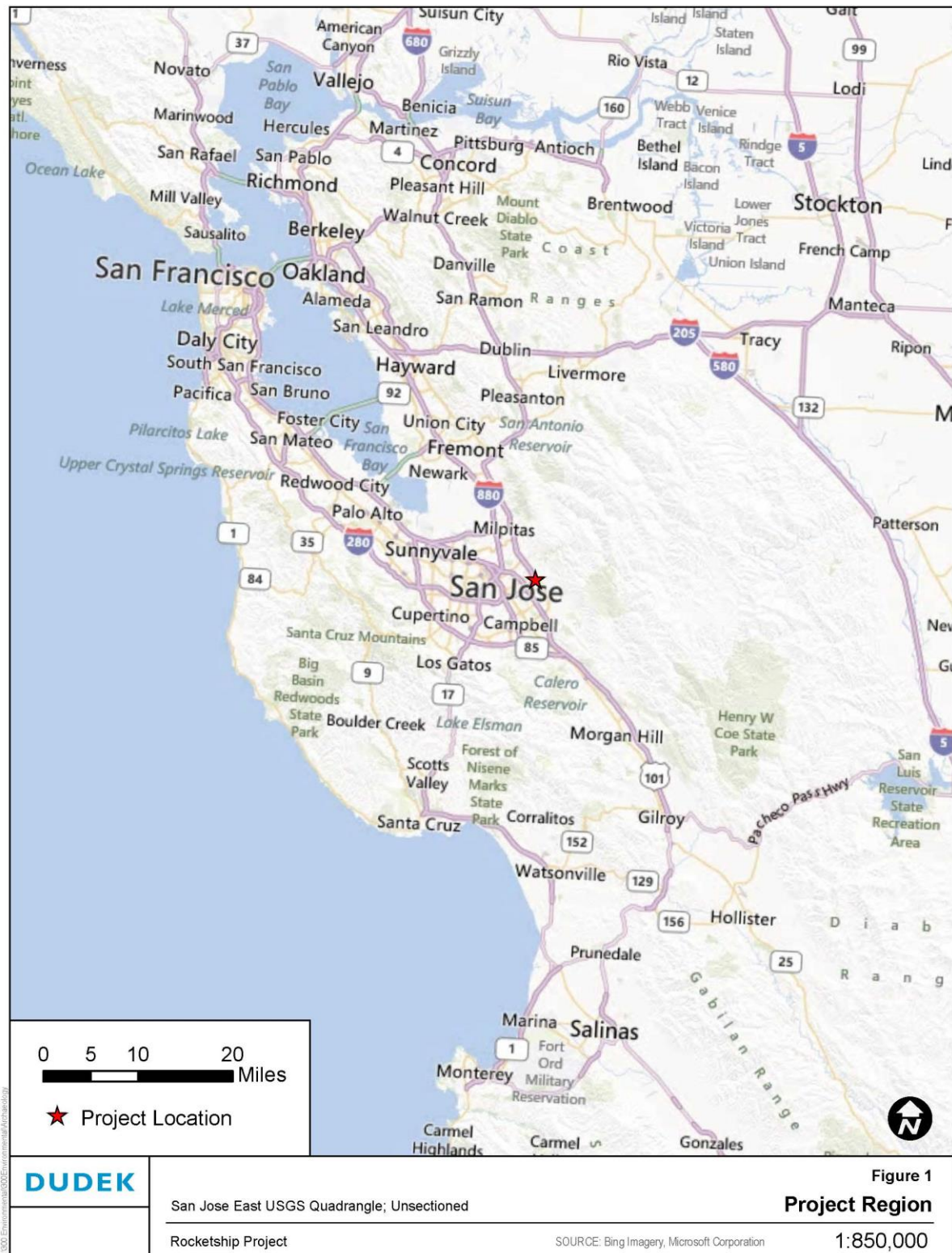
Environmental Setting

The project site is located in a mixed residential and commercial area. Commercial and retail uses in the vicinity include a bank, gas station, and two small retail centers (one slightly north of the site on the west side of Jackson Avenue and one south of the site on the east side of the street). Single-family residences are located east and southwest of the site while multi-family residences are located to the west. A church is located west of the project site.

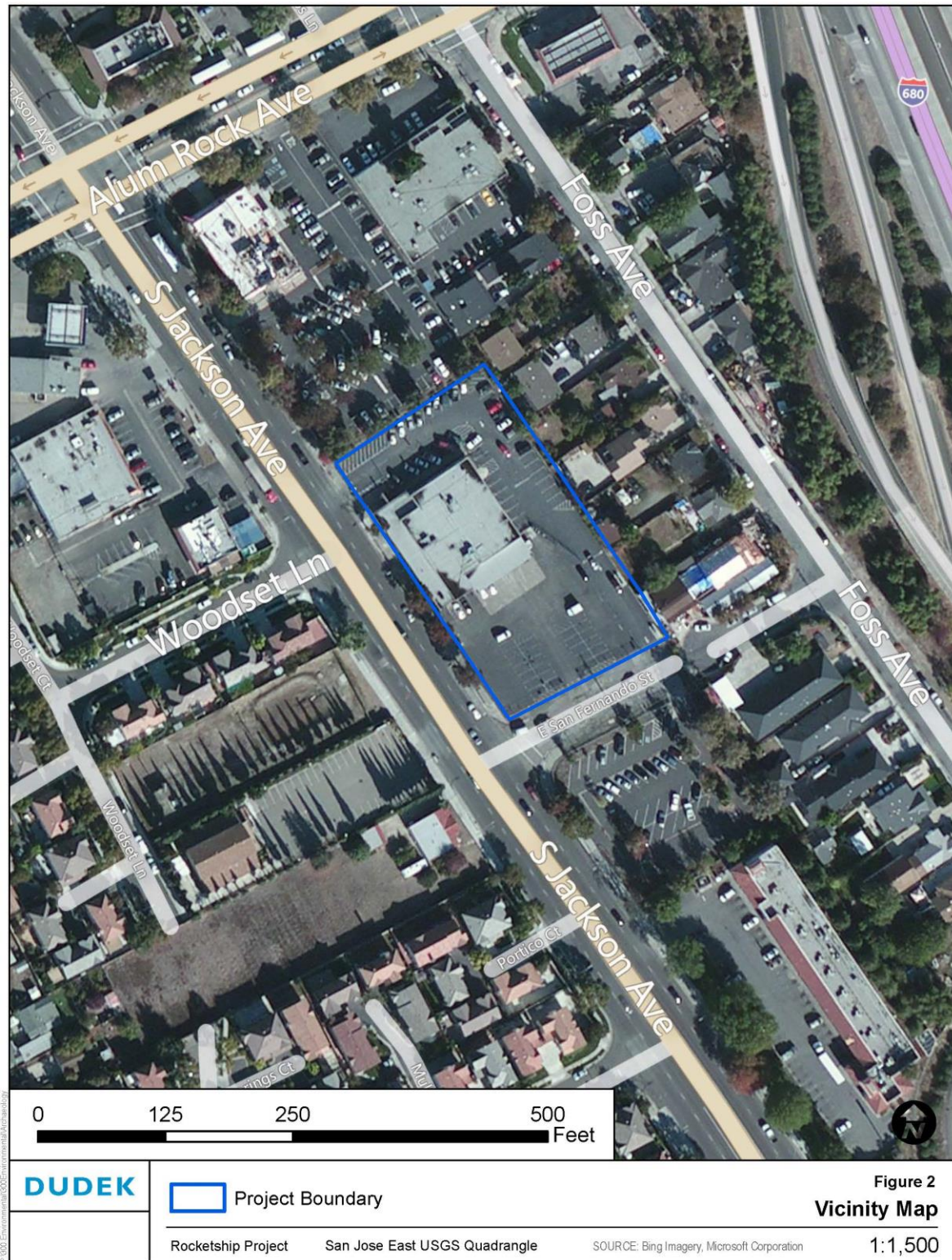
REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

CEQA requires that all private and public activities not specifically exempted be evaluated for the potential to impact the environment, including effects to historical resources. Historical resources are recognized as part of the environment under CEQA. It defines historical resources as "any object, building, structure, site, area, or place, which is historically significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (Division I, Public Resources Code, Section 5021.1(b)).

Lead agencies have a responsibility to evaluate historical resources against the California Register criteria prior to making a finding as to a proposed project's impacts to historical resources. Mitigation of adverse impacts is required if the proposed project will cause substantial adverse change. Substantial adverse change includes demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of an historical resource would be impaired. While demolition and destruction are fairly obvious significant impacts, it is more difficult to assess when change, alteration, or relocation crosses the threshold of substantial adverse change. The CEQA Guidelines provide that a project that demolishes or alters those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance (i.e., its character-defining features) can be considered to materially impair the resource's significance.



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The California Register is used in the consideration of historic resources relative to significance for purposes of CEQA. The California Register includes resources listed in, or formally determined eligible for some California State Landmarks and Points of Historical Interest. Properties of local significance that have been designated under a local preservation ordinance (local landmarks or landmark districts), or that have been identified in a local historical resources inventory may be eligible for listing in the California Register and are presumed to be significant resources for purposes of CEQA unless a preponderance of evidence indicates otherwise.

Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be “historically significant” if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) consisting of the following:

1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States; or
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history; or
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

NWIC RECORDS SEARCH RESULTS SUMMARY

The following section summarizes the results of the records search conducted by the Northwest Information Center for the proposed project parcel and a surrounding .25 mile area.

Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

No sites have been recorded within the Project parcel; however, six resources (all historic addresses) have been recorded within a quarter-mile radius of the Project (Table 1; Confidential Appendix A).

Table 1. Resources Identified by NWIC Records Search

Primary Number	CRHR Eligibility	Resource	Within Project Area	Address
P-43-001685	Not Eligible	Historic Building	No	2227 - 2229 and 2243 - 2249 Alum Rock Ave
P-43-001686	Not Eligible	Historic Building	No	2254 Alum Rock Ave
P-43-001687	Not Eligible	Historic Building	No	2255-2257 Alum Rock Ave

Primary Number	CRHR Eligibility	Resource	Within Project Area	Address
P-43-001688	Not Eligible	Historic Building	No	2259-63 Alum Rock Ave
P-43-001689	Not Eligible	Historic Building	No	2274 Alum Rock Ave
P-43-001691	Eligible	Historic Building	No	2254 Luz Ave

Of the six previously recorded historic buildings, five have been recommended as not eligible for listing in Local, State or Federal Registers. One building (P-43-001691), recorded as 2254 Luz Avenue, has been recommend as not eligible for NRHP listing (6Y), however remains potentially eligible for listing in the CRHR.

Previous Cultural Resources Studies

NWIC records indicate that 15 archaeological and/or historic resources studies have been conducted within a quarter-mile radius of the project area (Table 2; Confidential Appendix A). None of these technical studies have included the project area.

Table 2. Previous cultural resources studies conducted within one-quarter mile

Report ID	Authors	Year	Title
S-004671	Miley Paul Holman	1979	An Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Mayfair I Renewal Project in East San Jose, California (letter report)
S-008346	Miley Paul Holman	1980	An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of the Proposed Lands of Tubia in East San Jose, California (letter report)
S-009544	Rebecca Loveland Anastasio, Margaret V. Farnsworth, Donna M. Garaventa, Stuart A. Guedon, and Michael D. Meyer	1987	Historic Property Survey of the Proposed Capitol Expressway Commuter Lane Project, City of San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
S-009893	Rebecca Loveland Anastasio, Donna M. Garaventa, Stuart A. Guedon, Mella J. Rothwell, and Michael R. Corbett	1988	Historic Property Survey of the Proposed Almaden Expressway Commuter Lane Project Located in the City of San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
S-010156	Rebecca Loveland Anastasio, Angela M. Banet, Margaret V. Farnsworth, Donna M. Garaventa, Stuart A. Guedon, and Michael D. Meyer	1988	Historic Property Survey of the Proposed Capitol Expressway Commuter Lane Project, City of San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
S-013802	Miley Paul Holman	1991	Archaeological Archival Research and Field Inspection of the Evergreen Specific Plan Offsite Improvements to Roadways (letter

Report ID	Authors	Year	Title
			report)
S-017624	Robert Cartier	1995	Cultural Resource Evaluation for 2035 E. San Antonio Street Project, City of San Jose
S-018055	Miley Paul Holman	1995	Archaeological Field Inspection of the Mayfair Property, San Jose, Santa Clara County, California (letter report)
S-022866	William Roop	1999	A Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Lands of Mayfair Nursery, Jackson Avenue, San Jose, California
S-023406	Eric Strother	2000	A Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Proposed Housing Project at 2157 E. Alum Rock Avenue, San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
S-031880	Stuart Guedon and Ward Hill	2005	Historic Property Survey Report/Finding of Effect (No Historic Properties Affected), 2254 Alum Rock Avenue Project, City of San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
S-033545	National Park Service	1994	Draft Comprehensive Management and Use Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, Arizona and California
S-036442	Randy Wiberg, Charlene Duval, Franklin Maggi, Richard Ambro, and Miley Holman	2001	Cultural Resources Review for the Housing Opportunities Study Phase II, San Jose, Santa Clara County, California
S-038868	Andrew Hope and Benjamin J. Harris	2011	Historical Resources Compliance Report, Proposed Relinquishment of a Portion of State Route 82 (P.M. 0.0 to 9.92) and a Portion of State Route 130 (P.M. 0.0 to 2.26) to the City of San Jose

Additional sources of information that were consulted by NWIC staff included the National Register of Historic Places, Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (ADOE), OHP Historic Property Directory (HPD), and historical maps. No properties relating to these sources were present within the project parcel. One building (P-43-001691), recorded as 2254 Luz Avenue, has been recorded in the OHP Directory of Historic Properties as not eligible for NRHP listing (6Y), however remains potentially eligible for listing in the CRHR (See Table 2, S-031880).

METHODS

Intensive Pedestrian Survey

Existing buildings, paved parking areas, roads, and landscaping cover the entirety of the proposed project area. Based on the developed nature of the project site, there is little-to-no likelihood of identifying surficial archaeological or paleontological resources at this location. For this reason, no intensive pedestrian survey was conducted. A separate study has been conducted for the built-environment (i.e., historical-era buildings and landscape). The 1960s-era US Postal Service building that is present on the project parcel will be properly evaluated by this consultant.

NAHC Sacred Lands File Search

A request has been sent to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to conduct a search of their Sacred Lands File for any recorded Sacred Lands or Native American heritage sites located within one-mile of the Project property. To date, no results have been provided by the NAHC. The NAHC will respond with a Native American tribal Contact List with tribal representatives that may have further knowledge of such sites within the Project.

Tribal Representative Contact

Following NAHC response, an archaeologist will prepare and send letters to these designated tribal representatives and individuals, and consult with each entity that requests information or identifies concerns about the effects of the Project on Traditional Cultural Properties or areas of cultural value. These letters contain a brief project description, reference maps, and state the presence or absence of resources identified through the NAHC and NWIC records searches. Native American representative correspondence and any concerns identified during consultation will be incorporated into the final environmental study.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Existing buildings, paved parking areas, roads, and landscaping cover the entirety of the proposed project area. No archaeological sites have been recorded within the Project parcel. No response from the NAHC has been received to date, and no tribal correspondence has yet been initiated. Results provided through observation of the aerial imagery for the area and a NWIC records search indicates that there is very low potential for the inadvertent discovery of undocumented cultural resources during ground breaking activities. Results of a built-environment evaluation for the project parcel are pending, and will be provided as a separate study. It is recommended that archaeological monitoring is unnecessary during future ground disturbing activities associated with the project.

CEQA Guidelines provide that a project that demolishes or alters those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance (i.e., its character-defining features) can be considered to materially impair the resource's significance. In order to best mitigate the effects of the project on cultural resources, a reasonable, good faith effort must be applied to determining their archaeological character and eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Of the four primary CRHR criteria for making such recommendations, Criterion 4 is most applicable for directing Phase I investigations. To be eligible for listing in the CRHR, a site must have "yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation" (Pub. Res. Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852).

While the planned project has a very low likelihood for encountering unanticipated archaeological resources, should construction or other personnel encounter any historical, archaeological or Native American cultural material within the project area the City of San Jose Department of Planning or a Dudek Archaeologist should be notified. In the event that a Native American burial, other human remains, or related cultural material are encountered, Section 15064.5(e) of CEQA requires work to be stopped and the County Coroner notified.

If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact myself or Micah Hale directly by email or phone.

Respectfully,



Adam Giacinto, M.A., RPA
Archaeologist

DUDEK

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Att: Appendix A: Confidential Records Search Results

APPENDIX A (CONFIDENTIAL)

NWIC Records Search Results